

Cumorah's Southern Messenger



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From the Editor's Desk

BEAUTIFUL CHAPELS—A PRESSING NEED

One of the principle needs in the South African Mission is for adequate and beautiful chapels where members of the Church may assemble to worship our Heavenly Father. The Mission Presidency is aware of this urgent need. We believe that perhaps our duty to see this work accomplished rests upon us, in importance, immediately after our responsibilities, (1) to live the Gospel in our lives and to encourage our brothers and sisters to fully incorporate the principles of the Gospel in their daily lives, (2) to preach the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in this dispensation and take the message of Salvation to the good people in this land.

We have one lovely chapel of which we are justly proud. It is situated at Mowbray and is a real blessing in the lives of the people in Cape Town. The building is now twelve years old, but will be entirely adequate when doors are built between the chapel and recreation hall and can be opened to accommodate overflow crowds at Conferences and on other special occasions. This work is now in hand, together with building additions which include a new Relief Society kitchen, badly needed class rooms, and a library for the Branch.

"Ramah," our Mission Hall in Johannesburg, is now twenty-five years old. That modest building has served us well in the past, but is now too small for our congregations. Also, the locality where "Ramah" is situated has become a commercial and industrial section, and this isn't in keeping with the amenities which are desirable for a chapel and our needs. In other centres throughout South Africa we hold services in Scout halls, dancing studios, club rooms and other such rented places.

The Spirit of the Lord can, and certainly does, attend us when we meet together in small groups and in modest surrounding, but at the same time it is easier to cultivate and maintain the spirit of worship amid beautiful surroundings.

All of us have looked forward to the time when a beautiful chapel, representative of the Church, would be erected in Johannesburg. Not

only have we desired that the Saints in this area might have a suitable place to worship, but we have all felt that such an edifice would be extremely fine publicity for the Church.

Thousands daily pass the recently purchased building site on Jan Smuts' Avenue, which runs through the beautiful Northern Suburb of "the City of Gold." The Ramah Building Committee have stated, on another page of this publication, the things to be included in this building project, and under their able direction this undertaking is moving ahead.

The leaders of the Church in Salt Lake City are giving their full support to this project by sending the majority of funds which are needed. According to the Building Programme of the Church, the members concerned pay half the costs. However, due to conditions and circumstances existing in this mission, we are paying an amount considerably less than half. The members of the Ramah Branch will be assessed substantial amounts, depending upon their wage scale, to raise most of the funds.

As the Presidency of this mission, we are at this time asking for the support of the entire membership throughout the Union. We feel that each wage earner should contribute not less than one pound to aid the Johannesburg Saints. We encourage each individual not to rely upon his neighbour to carry the load, but to answer this appeal by sending a minimum of one pound to Brother Norman G. Muir, Chairman of the Ramah Building Committee, 119, Kitchener Avenue, Bez Valley, Johannesburg.

Within the next few years we shall endeavour to erect chapels in three of the other cities in the Union where the Saints are located. When these projects are begun the same appeal for funds will be made. In this way the members in each centre will reciprocate for aid given when it was needed for their particular centre.

We feel sure that many of our former missionaries and mission presidents will want to contribute toward this cause and we invite them to

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ANNUAL RELIEF SOCIETY BAZAAR



Members of the Mowbray, Sea Point and Pinelands Relief Societies pictured in front of the cleverly decorated clothing-goods stall. This souvenir photo will remind the ladies of a very successful bazaar in 1949.

The annual bazaar at "Cumorah" is certainly one of the outstanding events of the year. This year's bazaar was no exception.

For months beforehand, our sisters had been proving that women **can** work together without friction. Needlewomen put their best efforts into garments and napery. Cooks prepared their finest cakes and sweets. All the women in the Relief Society were asked to do something; and nobody failed to play a part.

Every evening of the first week in November was "working night" in the hall. Men and boys planed boards, moved tables and nailed tops to stalls. The ladies gave the instructions. By Friday, the hall began to look like an old-time fair.

The stalls were decorated with crinkled

paper festoons. Each stall-holder had an opportunity to let her artistic fancy run riot. Green, gold and white were the predominant colours — although other shades were used.

November 5th dawned bright and clear. It was one of the loveliest of early summer days. The helpers arrived early, and put the finishing touches to an already completed task.

The Relief Societies were in charge of the drapery-stalls. There were articles of apparel for every member of the family—from layettes to summer-frocks for Granny. Christmas gifts of many varieties were displayed for sale. Customers soon realised that bargains were going and a brisk trade was maintained all day.

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Sister van Schalkwyk and her daughters were behind the counter at the sweet-stall. It was not the dangling film-star gallery that attracted our young men, either.

Elder Niven and Brother Richard Yarn had a good many amateur bowlers at their "knock down the dollies" booth. If clients received as much value in prizes as they got in laughter they did well.

Madame Stella's messages from the stars attracted males and females alike. We noticed blushes on the cheeks of some of those who consulted her; and we could almost smell the orange-blossoms in their future.

Business flourished at the tombola stall. Some of the dart-throwers were experts—some were **not**.

Sister Barbara Jean Wright and other small helpers struck a festive air with their greetings-cards stall. Pictures of fat robins and heavily-berried holly wreaths reminded us that Christmas is not far off.

The toy-stall held articles that were calculated to charm the heart of any child (and quite a lot of adults, too!) Did Santa Claus patronise that stall, we wonder?

The hot-dog stand and the milk-bar were close neighbours. The assistants at these were literally run off their feet.

The produce-stall solved the problem of "what to get for Sunday supper?" There was something of everything for sale—jams, preserves, braun, honey—and good things too numerous to mention.

The cake-stall looked like a bower of roses. As there was a sell-out quite early in the day, we had the opportunity to admire the beauty of the decorations.

Outside, Brother Leslie Halse ran an open-air vegetable market. He did not lack customers; as our housewives appreciate fresh vegetables at reasonable prices.

Dinners and suppers were served; no cafe in the city could have provided as good at so little cost. Sister Agnes Hubert and her band of helpers proved fine caterers, while the young Sisters, who served as waitresses, were willing and capable.

When evening (and closing-time) arrived, a band of happy but tired helpers heard the news that an amount of over two hundred and sixty pounds had been raised. This is a record for any LDS bazaar in South Africa.

We wish to thank all those who helped—by work, by contributions and by patronage—to make this 1949 bazaar a record-breaker.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

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do so. All overseas friends who are interested in the Lord's work in South Africa are also invited to send their contributions to Brother Muir, or to "CUMORAH."

The Lord has admonished us to be ONE in all our efforts, especially in regard to our temporal matters. So let us all put our shoulders to the wheel and back this project by sending our

pounds to Johannesburg.

The blessings of the Lord will be enjoyed by those who aid in building up His Kingdom and this building is no small part of our Father's work in this land.

Confident that we will enjoy your support in this worthy cause, as we have in the past, we remain your brethren in the Gospel of our Lord.

SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION PRESIDENCY.

OUR FRONT COVER

We dedicate our cover to this happy old gentleman, pictured bursting through the continent to wish us all a "Merry Christmas."

It is hoped that Father Christmas will be very generous to the Saints in our mission

and bless them with joy and happiness during the Christmas Season and throughout the New Year.

(Elder J. Errol Niven provided the art work for this month's cover).



GOODBYE TO ULCERS

Oh yes, there's good news from Zion! Yessir, no more ulcers for future missionaries! Those well-worn jokes about cooking and eating practices of Mormon Elders are just about out of date. At least, they will be if members of the class at the missionary home in Salt Lake City absorb the cooking lessons now offered for the first time.

With so many of his returning missionaries suffering from the familiar and ubiquitous ailment "abused stomach," Brother Don B. Colton, Mission Home Director, has at last struck on a remedy. From now on, all young missionaries-to-be will be taught how to cook and what is perhaps even more important, how to eat. The new crop won't be like the "good old Elders" because they are very apt to turn down a third helping of trifle or a proffered after-dinner double-thick. But they'll be healthier for it.

The new course, to be taught by Mrs. Marilyn Wood Taggart a graduate student of home economics, will become a part of the training required of all future mission-

aries. Each Elder will be presented with a copy of the new *Missionaries' Kitchen Bible*. The new *Bible* will contain the "ten commandments" and "golden rules" of good cooking, proper diet, and recipes.



East London Primary—Unique project provides enjoyable activity for children.

Appearing in last month's issue of the *Children's Friend* is the above picture of the East London Primary. Included also in the magazine was a short paragraph commenting on the past activities of this group. The squinting children proudly display the butterfly nets which they made as an extra project in their regular primary schedule. Pictured with the children are Mrs. Dora Booyesen, who is the East London Primary director, and Elders V. R. O'Brien and O. G. Rowland. These three organized the primary in East London early this year, and through the able guidance of Mrs. Booyesen it is still progressing. This is a characteristic example of the fine work that is being conducted by the mission primaries throughout the Union of South Africa.

FORMER MISSION PRESIDENT APPOINTED

Regional Welfare Co-ordinator

June B. Sharp, former South African Mission President, was recently appointed to be the regional co-ordinator for the new Sugar House Region of the Church Welfare Program. Eight stakes comprise the Sugar

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AN APPEAL FOR AID

RAMAH LETTER

The Ramah Branch Meeting Hall is located on Commissioner Street, one of the main thoroughfares in Johannesburg. Directly opposite our hall is the local fire station, with a dairy on the opposite corner. On one side is an automotive repair shop and on the other, a public school is situated.

It is not difficult for one to imagine and picture the noise and confusion which naturally surrounds our hall as a result of these public shops and centres. The tram cars which pass in front only add to the din and confusion in this area. These many physical distractions are not conducive to proper spiritual worship.

Our small meeting place has served its purpose well over the years. However, the membership is growing rapidly in Johannesburg and other Rand areas. Recent District Conference meetings have proved the total inadequacy of the Ramah Hall to accommodate members and friends who desire to congregate and receive counsel and advice from our mission leaders. Overflow crowds have attended the recent conferences and every conceivable means were employed to provide space. Many were turned away because of the limited space in our hall.

Just prior to World War II, a building committee had been formed to undertake the task of erecting a new chapel for the Ramah Branch. The project had been sanctioned, a site had been purchased, and everything was proceeding according to plan when the late President Heber J. Grant intervened and advised the committee to delay construction for several months. A few months later the missionaries were called home to take part in the Great War, many of the local members were serving in North Africa and because of these factors the building project had to be abandoned. Thus the wisdom in President Grant's advice was vindicated.

The present committee has been instructed by President Wright to carry this

building project through to finality, and that is our goal. You read in the C.S.M. last month of the purchase of a lovely building site. The site is located on Jan Smuts' Avenue in Parkwood, one of the most beautiful suburbs of Johannesburg. We feel that the beautiful surroundings will conform with our desire to erect a house of worship worthy to bear the name of our Lord.

The plot of ground is large enough so that a large chapel may be constructed where the Saints may worship. The need for a recreation hall is evident and that also will be provided for on the spacious lot. Class rooms and a Relief Society room with an adjoining kitchen, are needed so that the auxiliaries of our Branch may function in accordance with the plan of the Church. These have also been included in our building plans.

We are sure that you can appreciate the vastness of our task and the difficulties involved in contacting each member personally. We have decided to make, through the courtesy of the Mission Presidency and the CSM, a mission wide appeal to all wage earners for general contributions.

Booklets of printed bricks have been sent to all branches in the mission. We wish to mention that it is not intended that the members buy these, but rather that they invite their friends to purchase them and so earn a blessing from our Heavenly Father. Three prizes are to be awarded to the persons selling the most bricks by the end of March, 1950. These prizes will be awarded in goods, of the winners' choice, amounting to the sums of £10, £7 10s., and £5.

We feel quite sure, and you will agree with us, that the present progress of the Church in Johannesburg is largely dependent upon a new chapel with the proper amenities. By aiding us at the time of this appeal, you can show your interest in the growth of the Church and the development and progression of its members.

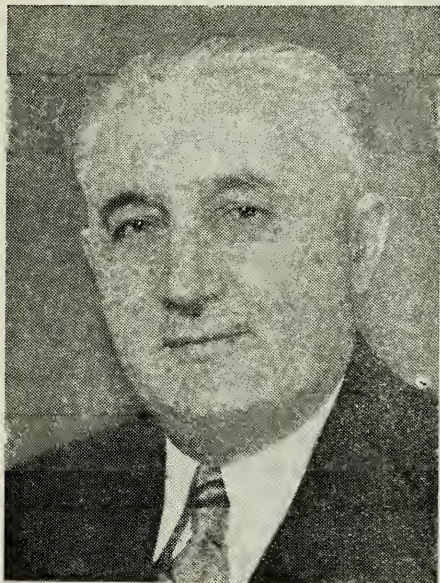
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THE GREATNESS OF JESUS

By ALMA SONNE

(Editor's note.—This article was written by special request for Cumorah's Southern Messenger.)

Alma Sonne, President of the European Mission, has touched upon the life of our Lord and Master. It is hoped that as your thoughts are turned to Jesus, especially during this season of the year, you will reflect upon the things said by President Sonne and strive to exemplify the life of the Saviour.)



*The author, who resides in
London, England.*

Jesus Christ was as great as the gospel He preached. He was full of grace and truth. The simple and wonderful story of His life is told in the four gospels, each one of which is a testimony of His divinity. Millions have examined that story and have accepted Him as the outstanding character of human history. There is no one with whom He can properly be compared. Singular and alone He stands towering high above all others, commanding the attention of believer and unbeliever alike.

History has failed to account for the Man of Galilee. He cannot be classified. "I came forth from the Father," He said, and "If ye have seen me ye have seen the Father." These words offer the only explanation which is compatible with His teachings and the demonstrations of His power. Surely He was the Son of God sent to earth to redeem mankind and to point the way of salvation.

Jesus is the miracle of all the centuries which has come and gone since His advent upon the earth. He has been the subject of bitter debate and the controversy will continue until "every knee shall bend and every tongue confess" that Jesus is the Christ. He cannot be eliminated by the fury of those who deny and refuse to believe. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my word shall not pass away." (Matt. 24:35) said He, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." (St. John 12:32). These statements signify the extent and durability of His teachings. With such astounding declarations He asserted His leadership and proclaimed the importance of His earthly mission.

Opposed by priest and politician, and misunderstood by the common people, He proceeded to lay the foundation upon which God's Kingdom would eventually be established. His program admitted of no compromise. There was to be no deviation from His announced doctrine of love and good will. Love God, love your fellowmen and "do good to them that despitefully use you," formed the bed-rock of His plan to save and uplift the human race. His enemies combined against Him and finally subjected Him to the worst form of execution known to the ancient world. It was a signal for His complete annihilation. Its purpose was to destroy His memory, to discredit His claims and to scatter His followers. But how empty, after all, was the victory. Jesus Christ still lives. His spirit

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Genealogical Research In South Africa

By Elder Marriner K. Norr

(Editor's note—There is a great deal of genealogy work being done in the South African Mission; principally, that temple ordinances may be performed for loved ones who have died without a knowledge of the gospel, and secondly, that those who have been baptized into the Church may trace their genealogy out of the country and be ordained to the Priesthood.

There are many who would like to do genealogy work, but who do not have a knowledge of the fundamentals regarding correct procedure. Due to the many requests for information on how to begin this work, Elder Marriner K. Norr has undertaken to write the following article. Elder Norr is well qualified to give instructions pertinent to genealogy work in South Africa, and it is his hope that this article will help those who are engaged in this most worthy work.)

HOW TO BEGIN:

The first step is to collect from relatives all the pertinent information that they can give from memory, family Bibles, diaries, old letters, tombstones, etc. When writing to them be sure to state clearly just what data is needed, and, if possible, enclose a list of questions or a family group record that can be filled in and returned to you.

Next, arrange the information thus obtained on a pedigree chart and on family group records. Family group records should be filled in for your own family and for every marriage of each ancestor whose name has been placed on the pedigree chart.

The third step is to seek further information from the sources listed below.

CIVIL RECORDS:

The Birth Certificate: The full birth certificate gives the name of the child, the date and place of birth, and the names, ages, and birthplaces of the parents. It can be obtained from the Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths, Department of Interior, Pretoria, for 5 shillings.

A less detailed birth certificate is also

available from the local Registrar of Births and Deaths for 2/6.

The Marriage Certificate: The marriage certificate gives the names of each party, the date and place of the marriage, and the country of birth and the age of each. It is available from the Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths, of the town in which the marriage took place, for 2/6.

The Death Certificate: The death certificate gives the name of the deceased, the date and place of death, the age at death, and the birthplace. It is available from the local Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths for 2/6.

The official registration of births and deaths began in the various provinces as indicated below:

Transvaal.

Births 1900

Deaths 1900

Orange Free State.

Births 1903

Deaths 1902

Natal.

Births 1868

Deaths 1868

Cape.

Births 1895

Deaths 1895

In each province, with the exception of Natal, the registration of marriages began some years before that of births and deaths.

The Death Notice: Of the civil records, the most valuable is the death notice. When properly filled in it gives the name of the deceased, the birthplace, the names of the parents, the name of the husband or wife, the date and place of death, the age at death, and the names of the children. It is available from the Master's Office of the Supreme Court located in the capital of the province in which the person died. There is a three shilling charge for each death notice.

Death notices can be obtained in the

various provinces beginning with the following dates.

Transvaal	1873
Orange Free State ...	1850
Natal	1852
Cape	1834

CHURCH RECORDS:

Christening Records: The christening record gives the date of christening, usually the date of birth, the names of the parents, and a list of the sponsors.

Marriage Records: The information obtained from marriage records varies. Sometimes only the names of the two parties and their date of marriage will be given. More complete records, however, will also give the age of each party and possibly the names of their fathers.

Death Records: Death records give the date and place of death, the age at death, and if the deceased is a child, the name of one of his parents.

This information concerns the records in the Dutch Reformed Church. Those in the English Church are similar, but vary slightly.

Information from the records of the Dutch Reformed Church can be obtained by writing to the individual church. In the Cape, since 1843, the individual churches have filed duplicate copies of their christening records in the Archives of the Dutch Reformed Church, in Cape Town. Similar archives exist in the capitals of the other three provinces, but their records begin at a later date.

Information from the records of the English Church can be obtained by writing to the individual church, as there are no central archives.

Charges for information vary with the local church.

BOOKS:

Hockly, *The Story of the British Settlers of 1820 in South Africa*: Contains a list of the 1820 Settlers, giving the age of each in 1820. De Villiers, *Geslacht-Register Der Oude Kaapsche Familien*: Contains a list of many of the early Dutch, French, and German settlers of the Cape, and lists their descendants, by family groups, down to those born about 1810.

Botha, *The French Refugees at the Cape*: Contains a list of the French refugees that came to this country about 1688, and gives much valuable genealogical information concerning them.

Archives Year Book For South African African History, 1946: Contains a list of about 4,000 Germans who settled in South Africa between 1652 and 1806, giving much valuable information concerning them.

Colenbrander, *De Afkomst Der Boeren*: Contains a list of a number of the early settlers, giving the birthplace, the date of marriage, name of husband or wife, birthplace of husband or wife, and the number of children they had.

These books are available in many of the larger libraries throughout the Union.

NEW ARRIVALS

Arriving aboard the "African Enterprise", on November 2nd, were Elders Norman E. Stockton, Donald E. Toomey, and John A. Wursten.

Elder Stockton, from Dunsmuir, California, has been assigned to labour with Elder Niven in Rondebosch.

Elder Toomey, from Salt Lake City, Utah, has been assigned to labour with Elder J. Taylor in Florida.

Elder Wursten, from Arlington, California, has been assigned to labour with Elder Thorn in Orange Grove.

The sister ship to the "Enterprise," the "African Endeavor," docked in Cape Town on November 29th. Three more Elders, all from Utah, arrived on board this ship. The new arrivals, Elders Donald V. Cook, James D. Gardner, Shelby R. Lisonbee, will labour in Cape Town until they are permanently assigned during Convention.

We are happy to welcome these brethren to the South African Mission and pray that they may enjoy the blessings which the Lord bestows upon those who labour in His service.

CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD

(Continued from page 177)

House Region with a total population of 47,000 Latter-day Saints.

Elder Sharp will also manage the newly purchased regional storehouse which will supply this large region.



TRANSVAAL DISTRICT

Ramah Branch—reported by

Mary Millan Stark

Friends and members gathered at Ramah on October 31st to attend a Testimonial and Farewell for Sister Yvonne Matthews. The evening closed with a concert in which our versatile missionaries and members excelled. After refreshments were served, everyone joined in dancing the Virginia Reel. We wish Yvonne every blessing in this great adventure, her eighteen months Mission in Cape Town, and we know from past experience that she will be able to cope with whatever her duties may be.

On November 2nd the Annual Relief Society Bazaar culminated the year of hard work which Sister Margaret Carr, her Counsellors, Sisters Ann Ganter and Kitty Smith, and the active members had put in to preparations for this event. The array of well-made gifts, clothes and goodies evoked the admiration of all.

Under flood-lights on Pretoria's Caledonian Ground, the Transvaal Missionaries played an exhibition game of basketball on the 2nd as part of the events planned for Jacaranda Week. Elder G. E. Dalton has been coaching students at the Technical College and as a result he received a request to play this game. As many people present had never seen the game before, their interest was keen. The Missionaries welcomed the chance to play before this large gathering and although

they are still tending the scars obtained, they count it all as experience!

Recently, our serious little Barbara Phipson entered the waters of baptism and completed the family group who have all been baptised now. We hope that the same sweet spirit evident in their family will continue to enrich their lives and the lives of their associates.

On the 5th, Brother Norman G. Muir performed the marriage ceremony for Mrs. Moira Kelly and Mr. P. Warren. Their friends all join in wishing them every happiness in their future!

We regret to hear that Sister Orton and her son, Les have been inmates of the Hospital and we wish them a speedy recovery. Sister Doreen has been exhibiting her skill as a nurse in helping them through their convalescence.

On Remembrance Day, 13th November, Elder Cal Hill was one of the guest speakers at a service sponsored by the Y.M.C.A. Institute. He ably fulfilled his noble calling.

On the 22nd, the Ramah Hall was the scene of a friendly gathering when the Elders showed some of their slides and films to members and friends. The American photography craze continues to flourish much to the delight of the local friends who admire the Elders' choice and good taste. Apparently our Missionaries are good publicity agents for the Union as they all leave with a collection of scenic gems. Perhaps this ought to be brought to the notice of the Union's publicity department!

The Missionaries are keeping themselves fit by playing various games such as softball, basketball, etc., and on the 23rd they played a game of softball against the staff of the American Embassy. The playing was keen but our Elders did not quite manage to beat their opponents.

One cannot imagine Thanksgiving Day being allowed to pass without a Thanksgiving Dinner with all the fixin's. As this important day approached our Elders began to wonder what their fate would be. To assuage any feelings of homesickness they pooled their efforts on Thursday, the 24th, and served themselves a super din-

ner with all the trimmings. After satisfying the "inner man" the time was devoted to large servings of humour served by our budding actors and comedians.

The Building Fund Committee is busily planning a Concert to be held in the Selborne Hall, in February next, and it is hoped to add a large sum to the Fund.

News has been received from Brother Melvin (Sonnyboy) Muir that he is settling down in his new work on a Gold Mine near Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia. His family miss his cheerful ways, but are looking forward to his return after his initial training is completed.

A welcome visitor from Cape Town is Sister Joyce Enslin, who is enjoying an all too short holiday.

News from Overseas: A cable has been received from Salt Lake City stating that another son had arrived for Brother (Dr.) and Sister Bob Douglass. Grace Douglass (née Millan) was at one time an ardent worker in the Ramah Branch and Dr. Douglass served a Mission here some years ago.

Sister Margaret (Peggy) Jennings writes to many members stating that she had the pleasure of attending South African Reunions and spent a happy time reminiscing with ex-Missionaries, who all asked about their friends back in the Union. When visiting the Don Mack Daltons, many hours were spent in answering queries about the conditions of the various Branches and the members. Brother Don Mack Dalton and his wife, Genevieve, hope to return on a visit, preferably in the near future so as to accompany their son, George Edward, home. Their many friends would welcome the opportunity of renewing acquaintances.

Brother Ariel Smith and wife, Jo, and family have settled in Logan, Utah. Although they miss their friends here they are finding the many Church activities all-absorbing.

Springs Branch—reported by Mavis E. Louw

It was a shock to all of us when Miss Helen Kotze was again removed to the

New Kleinfontein Hospital, and subsequently to the Boksburg-Benoni Hospital, for treatment. We thought that she had fully recovered from her recent illness. The latest reports are that Miss Kotze is much better and we continue to pray for her full recovery.

Erold Jubber has returned home, after his serious accident, with his leg in a cast. Brother and Sister Jubber are grateful to all who prayed for Erold.

Brother W. H. Brummer of North West, accompanied by Sister Brummer and daughter, visited Springs on Sunday the 6th, notwithstanding the heavy rains. Elders Parker and Bell were also visiting us at the invitation of the Branch Presidency. They gave two extremely fine talks on the Book of Mormon and the Plan of Salvation. We appreciate their fine efforts and ask the Lord to bless them.

Brother Brummer spoke to us in Afrikaans. Elder Parker gave a lovely vocal rendition of "The Stranger of Galilee."

Elders Evans and Olson, our District Presidency, attended the Relief Society Bazaar which was held on the 12th. They officially opened the day's activities. A large crowd filled Sister Futter's home, which was quite inadequate for such a function, to purchase goods. The Springs Relief Society wishes to express sincere thanks to all who contributed to this function. We especially wish to thank Mrs. Blakemore, Mrs. Kote, Mrs. Steyn and Mrs. Switzer for their lovely donations.

This bazaar was an outstanding success. When all the goods and foods were sold, dancing was enjoyed with music provided by Brother Futter. The Elders, who are considered as connoisseurs of food, can indeed testify as to the quality of the many foods which were sold.

The M.I.A. sponsored an outing at the Olympia Park Swimming Baths on the 19th. Everybody had a good time, but there were many red backs the next day.

Your reporter has been asked, by the members of the Branch, to extend VERY BEST WISHES FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON to the Mission Presidency and their families, the Missionaries and all the

members of the Church throughout the Union.

It is our prayer and earnest desire that you may all be enriched with the choicest blessings our Heavenly Father can bestow. God Bless You All.

NATAL DISTRICT

Durban Branch—reported by Valarie Hancock

Another surprise party was held this month. This time it was in honour of Sister Fagan's birthday. The party was arranged by her daughter Natalie, and when Sister Fagan was brought along to Sister Hancock's home (under false pretences) she was very pleasantly surprised to find her party crowd awaiting her arrival.

An Auxiliary meeting was held on the 1st. Brother Andy Fourie brought Elders Duncan and Higham to Durban, and many things were discussed which were to our benefit and advancement. We all enjoyed the spirit of the meeting and had looked forward to meeting Elders Higham and Duncan, whom most of us knew only through writing and reputation.

Our M.I.A. brought their activities to a close by holding a Moonlight Picnic on the 11th. A good crowd, although only about half the people expected, embarked in good spirits on the Ferry for Fynnlands Beach. We had a wonderful time, roasting "weenies" and marshmallows, and swimming. Just as we were about to start the games, the rain came down—this did not stop anyone having a good time, because they simply dived back into the water and played "Water-nymphs." This rain did not last long, however, so we were able to play our games after all. Sister Bennee prepared the food, of which there was more than enough for everyone, and Elder Curtis battled to get the fire started while the rest of the party were swimming. Special thanks goes to these two grand people.

We were very happy to welcome Elder Sterling Provost to Durban. We had heard about his bass voice, but we did not expect it to be as good as it is. We feel sure our Choir will be started again, as he

has already started to keep his ears open for local "talent." We do hope he will enjoy his labours here as much as we feel sure we will enjoy having him with us.

Brother Andy Fourie left Durban on the 16th, and took Brother Edwin Jakins back to Cape Town with him. We have really enjoyed having these two brethren with us, and were sorry to say goodbye.

Sister Gwen Ingram celebrated her 21st birthday on the 10th and we all enjoyed ourselves very much at the party she had in her home. Congratulations, Gwen, we hope your next 21 years will be as happy and progressive as your first 21 years have been.

Elder Milan Felt and Elder Sterling Workman gave their farewell talks at the Sacrament meeting on the 20th. They both left thoughts with us that will live in our hearts after their departure. We are very sorry to say good-bye to these two missionaries, as we have certainly enjoyed having them labour here in Durban. Elder Felt's lovely piano solos and accompaniments will be missed very much. Elder Workman will be missed for his cheery smile and friendship he gave to us all.

I feel sure that most of the members don't know that we have a very competent barber in our midst among the local missionaries. If there is anyone who does not believe us, they only need to take a look at one of the Barber's "Specimens." Elder Chambers, I may inform you, will be 'on view' whenever it is convenient, for inspection. Elder Boede being his companion, will more than likely be with him, so there you have both parties concerned. Elder Boede the Barber, and Elder Chambers the Specimen. I am sure Elder Boede will be kept pretty busy at convention time in Cape Town, giving the missionaries hair-cuts. Elder Chambers' hair gets better looking as time goes by, and Elder Boede's face gets less strained looking.

A baptismal service was held on 20th, before Sunday School. The following people were baptized and later confirmed in the Sunday School meeting

Thora Vera Walker—Baptized by Bro. C. A. Smith; Confirmed by Elder K. R. Curtis.

Doreen Hazel Smith—Baptized by Bro. C. A. Smith; Confirmed by Bro. J. M. Jakins.

Norma Joan Phillips—Baptized by Elder K. R. Curtis; Confirmed by Elder S. Provost.

Daphne Rhoda Wahlburn—Baptized by Elder K. R. Curtis; Confirmed by Elder A. S. Workman.

Roy Stephen Maurice du Toit—Baptized by Elder Peter Russell; Confirmed by Bro. L. Duncan.

Johan Georg Meyer—Baptized by Elder Peter Russell; Confirmed by Elder M. Q. Felt.

We are very happy to welcome these fine members into the Church, and pray they will ever realise the values and truths of this most wonderful Gospel.

CAPE DISTRICT

Mowbray Branch—reported by Beatrice Smith.

The Hallowe'en Party, on the 28th October, was a very jolly ending to a season of Mutual activities. The recreation-hall was suitably decorated for the occasion. A dangling skeleton was the first sight to meet one's eyes; a witch rode her broomstick over a doorway; black cats, owls, and an outsize spider added to the "cheerful?" effect. Hay—and more hay—turned the hall into a barn. Games (hilarious and robust) filled the first half of the programme. The guests got into the "hot-dog line" at interval. The evening closed with a vigorous Virvinia Reel, for which the Elders Band, assisted by Brother Hugh Helm, supplied the music. This band is unique—there being none other like it north or south of the line. We have to thank Elders Wilkes and Niven and Brother James Vigus for a very well-organized entertainment.

The speakers at Sacrament Meeting on the 30th were Elders Niven and Shirley. Elder Shirley's address was on the love that should prevail in a Latter Day Saint home; while Elder Niven spoke on "Faith and the authority of the Priesthood."

Welcome home to President Dan and Sister Cherrett (not forgetting Lynette Ann), and also to Brother and Sister Terblanche and young Michael. We hope that all of them have had glorious holidays.

It has been fine to have Sister Harvey in our midst again. She arrived from Pretoria on November 2nd; and straightway got into her stride working for the bazaar. Have a good time at the Cape, Sister Harvey.

Three new elders arrived in time for the bazaar. They are Elders Stockton, Toomey and Wursten. They will long remember their first cottage-meeting in "the wilds of darkest Africa." The Dr. Livingstone costumes added an authentic touch to the adventure.

It is good to have Presidents Wright and Yarn and Brother Thomas Wilson back with us. Their trip in the field has been a source of inspiration to all.

We extend a hearty welcome to Sister Yvonne Matthews, who has taken over secretarial duties at "Cumorah."

Elders Buhler and O'Brien were the speakers on the evening of Sunday the 6th. Elder Buhler spoke of the joyous ambition of mounting ever higher through living the Gospel. Elder O'Brien's talk was on Exaltation by Works. At this service the choir under the baton of Sister Taylor, made its debut. Sister Taylor would welcome all singers to choir practice on Tuesday evenings.

Fireside that evening took the form of a "hat-debate." Some very good views on religion and topics of the day were put forward. Elder Hyer proved a capable time-keeper, and summed up in three words:—"Live your religion."

The District Conference, held on November 13th, was a grand spiritual experience for all who were able to attend. On these occasions, we feel blessed to have the members from the outlying districts with us. At the morning session, we were glad to see Sister Beatrice Barnes from King William's Town; and Sister

Roma Escojido, who is at school at the Worcester Institute for the Blind. We were privileged to hear Sister Roma read a passage from the only Braille copy of the Book of Mormon in South Africa. Our first speaker was Elder Wilkes whose topic was "Search the Scriptures." President Cherrett reminded all that we had many blessings to count.

The afternoon session was addressed by President Wright, who spoke of new building projects, and called for volunteers to help the proposed work along. The various auxiliaries then separated into groups to discuss the happenings of the past season and make plans for the coming one.

The series of Conference meetings concluded with a splendid service in the evening. Brother Thomas Wilson gave a lively account of his tour through the mission. Our grand old gentleman certainly does enjoy his life to the full. President Yarn spoke feelingly of the Church of Jesus Christ as the body perfect. The closing address, by President Wright, was a challenge to all Latter Day Saints—a challenge which was to the effect that we could only obtain the fullness of the earth by living the Gospel. During the service, Brother John Wilson sang the solo, "Just for to-day"; and the choir rendered the anthem, "The Lord is my Shepherd." It was a perfect day—weather perfect and message-perfect.

We wish to congratulate Brother Goosen, who was ordained as a Priest during the afternoon session.

Sister Yvonne Matthews was the first speaker at Sacrament meeting on the 20th. Her subject was "Faith." She was followed by Elder Scott, who spoke on the ordinances of the Church.

Among those who have been ill during November are Sisters Freimond, Rayner, Sheila Bibb and Cecilia Harvey. We are pleased to hear that they are all on the road to recovery and we pray that they may soon be hale and hearty again.

The afternoon of November 27th saw the baptism of four new members. These were Brother Noel and Sister Dorothea

Storey, Brother John Cullen and Brother Ronald Newton. Brother and Sister Storey were baptized by Elder Scott, while Elder Jex baptized Brother Cullen and Ronald Newton. Sister Storey was confirmed by President Wright, and the same ordinance was performed for her husband by Elder Shirley. President Yarn and Elder Niven confirmed the other new members. Elder O'Brien was the first speaker of the afternoon. During the period of waiting, the meeting was thrown open that those present might bear their testimonies, and Elder Hyer was the last speaker. We welcome these new brothers and sister into the family of Latter-Day Saints in South Africa.

NOTICE

The Johannesburg Elders have made arrangements with the Lourenco Marques Broadcasting Station to broadcast "The Fullness of Times" recordings. They will be played every Tuesday night at 10 p.m. for one full year. These fine recordings were made in Hollywood under the direction of the Church Publicity Committee.

Invite your friends to listen in and hear the gospel preached in this modern manner.

Our speakers on the evening of November 27th were Elder Jex, who spoke of the Everlasting Gospel; and Brother Hugh Helm who spoke of the world of to-day and the influence of living aright in the present state of the world. It is good to hear from our younger members, when they are as sincere in their thoughts as is Brother Helm.

East London Branch—reported by Rita Booysen

On the 29th of October we held a games evening at the home of Sister Mona McCullam. Many attended and the proceeds went towards the "Christmas Tree Fund." One of our honoured guests was Mr. Mervin Hanau, a well known East London singer, and he thoroughly enjoyed

the paper hat game which was introduced by Elder Robinson.

Although the month of November was very quiet for this Branch, we did have some excitement when Elder Clyde Goodman arrived. We all extend a hearty welcome and hope his stay here in East London may be enjoyable and successful. We all thoroughly enjoyed the talk Elder Goodman gave at our Sacrament Meeting on the 27th. His subject was "Prayer," and were all very much impressed with the beautiful stories he told to illustrate how prayer has helped on the battlefield, at home and in every walk of life.

The Elders will soon be leaving for Cape Town to attend the annual Convention. We hope that they may enjoy the blessings of the Lord while they are there and also that they may return to us in safety and with new courage and faith to go through another year of missionary work.

Port Elizabeth Branch—reported by Theresa Trollip.

We are happy to announce the engagement of Sister Mavis Faith Doller to Albert Chamberlain. The happy pair made this announcement on the 28th, the day that Sister Mavis became of age. Hearty congratulations to these two and may wedding bells ring soon.

On the 29th of October we were happy to have Elders Duncan, Higham and Brother Andy Fourie attend our Sacrament Meeting. An officers' and teachers' meeting was held and Elder Duncan gave us some fine instructions regarding the teaching of Sunday School children.

The evening service on the 6th was under the direction of the Relief Society. The speakers were Sisters Trollip, Lawson and Elder Wride. Sister Everton, Sen., conducted the programme.

Port Elizabeth has had some lovely rain, which we are thankful for.

ORANGE FREE STATE DISTRICT Bloemfontein Branch—reported by Inez Spear

During the month we were privileged to meet Brother Dan Cherrett, Second Counsellor in the Missionary Presidency. He spoke in the Sunday School and evening

services. His messages were interesting and inspiring to us.

A social was arranged on the 29th of October to welcome Presidents Wright and Yarn and Brother Wilson. The programme was short, but successful and was enjoyed by all.

Morning and evening Conference Sessions were held on the 30th. These sessions were highly inspirational and the evening service, which was held in Fichardt's Hall, was well attended by friends and members.

Many changes have been made in the past few months among the missionaries here, and we take this opportunity to welcome the new arrivals.

THE GREATNESS OF JESUS

(Continued from page 179)

is everywhere operating among men, searching out the best there is in a deeply disturbed world. He cannot be expelled by His adversaries however numerous and powerful for His divinity has been revealed and His truths sufficiently established to withstand evil and to reassure the God-fearing and the righteous.

Jesus was the master of every situation. His words were decisive. His analyses were perfect, His wisdom infinite and His answers sufficient. One by one the proud egotists withered and fell before Him. The learning and the sophistry of the worldly-wise perished in the bright light of His presence. His greatness knew no bounds. By the sheer force of His personality He drove the money-changers from the temple. With righteous indignation He rebuked the false teachers of His day and pronounced upon them the most scathing denunciation found in all literature. With great skill and eloquence He instructed the learned Nichodemus in the primary laws of the gospel. To the discomfiture of a certain lawyer who "stood up" He told the beautiful story of the Good Samaritan as an answer to the question, "Who is my neighbour"? The spies of the chief priest who had been sent to trip and trap Him marvelled when He told them to "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be

Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's." (St. Luke 20:25). Never was an admonition on honesty more timely and fitting.

The Lord's teachings never grow old and commonplace. They come to the world of to-day with the freshness of yesterday. They deal with fundamentals. They have touched the heart of humanity in a way to transform and revolutionise the thinking habits of men and nations. His work carried on by a little group of fishermen, commissioned by Him and trained under His instruction, changed human history. Tyranny and oppression will eventually give way before His doctrine of equal rights set forth in the Golden Rule and the Sermon on the Mount. Autocrats and dictators cannot survive in a world guided and inspired by the gospel of Jesus Christ.

What was the secret of Christ's greatness? Was it not His trust in God—His knowledge and understanding of the laws and commandments which had been revealed through the Prophets? He was in constant contact with His Father in Heaven. The Divine Will was manifested in Him. He demonstrated throughout His entire ministry the powerful efficacy of faith. To a distressed father whose son was afflicted He said, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." (Mark 9:23.) Faith characterised the work of the Saviour. It was the spiritual force back of all His achievements . . . the foundation of His greatness.

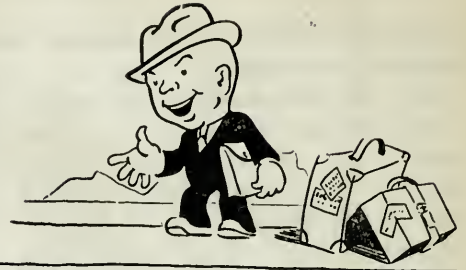
AN APPEAL FOR AID

(Continued from page 178)

will be sincerely appreciated. The Ramah members will respond quickly to reciprocate when you call upon us for aid. We pray humbly and sincerely for a special blessing for all who assist in this phase of the Lord's work.

THE RAMAH BUILDING COMMITTEE.

Norman G. Muir
Frank M. Donly
Kenneth Sutherland
Tex W. Smith.



TRANSFERS

The following transfers were effected during November:

Elder WAYNE D. BELL—transferred from Krugersdorp to Germiston, within the Transvaal District, to labour with Elder Quick.

Elder ADAM M. DUNCAN—transferred from the Mission Office, Cape District, to Bloemfontein, O.F.S. District, to labour with Elder Barton.

Elder DAROLD H. CHAMBERS—transferred from Ellis Park to Glenwood, within the Durban area, to labour with Elder Boede.

Elder J. CLYDE GOODMAN—transferred from Florida, Transvaal District, to East London, Cape District, to labour with Elders Robinson and Patrick.

Elder E. MAURAY PAYNE—transferred from Highlands North, Transvaal District, to Bloemfontein, O.F.S. District, to labour with Elder Christensen.

Elder STERLING R. PROVOST—transferred from Bloemfontein, O.F.S. District, to Durban, Natal District, to labour with Elder Russell.

The members of the "Cumorah Quartet" have been transferred from their respective areas to Ramah, Elder Parker, from Krugersdorp, Elder Taylor, from Orange Grove, Elder Workman from Durban. Elder Felt was transferred from Durban to Ramah. He will be piano accompanist for the Quartet.